

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1 to 8. (Canceled).

9. (Currently Amended) A contact surface for an electrical contact, comprising:

an Ag layer galvanically deposited on a copper-based substrate, the Ag layer including finely dispersed graphite particles in a quantity of between 1 and 3 weight % of the Ag layer, the graphite particles having a length in a range of 0.5 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ ; wherein each of the graphite particles does not simultaneously include a maximum thickness and a maximum width.

10. (Previously Presented) The contact surface according to claim 9, wherein the graphite particles have a length in the range of 1 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

11. (Previously Presented) The contact surface according to claim 9, wherein the graphite particles have a thickness in the range of 0.05 and 2  $\mu\text{m}$ .

12. (Previously Presented) The contact surface according to claim 9, wherein a ratio of thickness to length of the graphite particles is in the range of 1:2 to 1:40.

13. (Currently Amended) The contact surface according to claim 9, wherein the graphite particles are arranged at least one of (a) anisotropically and (b) ~~statisticaically~~ statistically along a habitus plane of the Ag layer.

14. (Previously Presented) The contact surface according to claim 9, wherein a layer thickness of the Ag layer is in the range of approximately 1 to approximately 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claims 15 to 16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:  
providing a contact surface in an automotive plug connection in close proximity to an engine, the contact surface including an Ag layer galvanically deposited on a copper-based substrate, the Ag layer including finely dispersed graphite particles in a quantity of between 1 and 3 weight % of the Ag layer, the graphite particles having a length in a range of 0.5 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ ;  
wherein each of the graphite particles does not simultaneously include a maximum thickness and a maximum width.

18. (New) The contact surface according to claim 9, wherein the graphite particles have a width in the range of 0.05 and 2  $\mu\text{m}$ .